

*This emailed letter from Director Cathy Ball, PE is a response to questions asked in a meeting on October 10, 2012 regarding traffic impact on the East West Asheville neighborhood and potential alternative truck routes. It is the text accompaniment to the pdf Truck Routing Summary*

From: Cathy Ball  
Sent: Sunday, October 28, 2012 2:48 PM  
To: 'Joshua Martin'  
Cc: Gary Jackson; 'Jenn Vervier'; Edwin Fowler; Jim Spencer; McCray Coates; Ken Putnam; Jeff Moore; Gabe Quesinberry (gsquesinberry@matternandcraig.com); Marsha Stickford; Stephanie Monson; Dawa Hitch; Jeff Richardson; Sam Powers  
Subject: Haywood Road Truck Route and Festus Route Option  
Attachments: 12 0210\_Project Jo\_Truck Routing and Craven Street summary (4).pdf

Dear Joshua,

I wanted to take the opportunity to thank you for organizing the meeting of the East West Asheville Homeowners Association (EWANA) on October 10th. The meeting was very helpful in opening up communications with the neighborhood and the City. I wanted to specifically address two issues discussed in the meeting. The first is to clarify the City's recommendation for Haywood Road to be the primary truck route for the New Belgium project. The second is the feasibility of utilizing the Festus Bridge (current Norfolk Southern Railroad Bridge) as the primary access for truck traffic to and from New Belgium.

During the evaluation of potential truck routes, traffic engineers identified five options. I have attached the report for reference purposes. These options included: (A) Haywood Road - West Asheville Route; (B) Craven Connector; (C) Riverside Drive; (D) Haywood - Clingman Avenue Route; and, (E) Amboy Road.

Route (A) Haywood Road - West Asheville, proved to be the best option for truck traffic as indicated in the report. City staff made the recommendation for the primary route for truck traffic to be Haywood Road after carefully reviewing the report and evaluating all other options. We recognize that the additional truck traffic on Haywood Road would have an impact on the East West Asheville Neighborhood. I would be happy to address any and all concerns that you or EWANA have regarding the selection of this option.

As we discussed in our community meeting, a traffic analysis for the project will evaluate impacts on the major residential streets in the neighbor. The results of the report will provide more information on the impacts and opportunities to mitigate this impact.

Secondly, I appreciate the creativity in the group to recommend a sixth option called the Festus Bridge option. We contacted Norfolk Southern to get an initial response to the concept.

McCray Coates, our project manager on this project, talked to Jeff Gentry with Norfolk Southern. He indicated that the spur was used once a day to service Silverline Company. The possibility of abandoning this spur seems slim at this point. We will evaluate the option of a shared use but find it somewhat problematic.

I realize that Ken Putnam has been in communication with Jonathan regarding the spur option. We will be working together to evaluate this option through the traffic impact analysis.

I am providing this e-mail to you to provide follow up information. Please feel free to share with the neighborhood. You may direct any question you or other members of the neighborhood have to myself or Ken Putnam. I look forward to our next meeting. We will try to focus the next meeting on providing follow up information from the last meeting and discuss construction mitigation.

Thanks again Joshua. Please let me know if you would like to discuss further.

My best,  
Cathy D. Ball, PE  
Director, Public Works Department  
City of Asheville  
P.O. Box 7148  
Asheville, NC 28802  
(828) 259-5939  
cball@ashevillenc.gov